

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, ROSALYNN)

SUBJECT: PRINCIPAL TOAST, DINNER HOSTED BY

PRESIDENT PEREZ FOR MRS. CARTER

AND TOAST FOR DINNER HOSTED BY MRS. CARTER

REF: STATE 104923-C

HEREWITH TOAST, DINNER HOSTED BY PRESIDENT PEREZ: QUOTE I THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, FOR YOUR ELOQUENT STATEMENT ON THE IDEALS AND CHALLENGES THAT OUR TWO COUNTRIES SHARE AS WE MOVE TOWARD THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY.

ONE OF THE STRONGEST BONDS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES SINCE THEIR CREATION HAS BEEN THE CONCERN FOR THE FREEDOM AND DIGNITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL. THAT CONCERN TODAY IS MORE CRUCIAL TO THE FUTURE THAN EVER, FOR TODAY MORE THAN EVER ALL MEN AND NATIONS ASPIRE TO A BETTER LIFE. WE IN THE UNITED STATES BELIEVE THAT A BETTER MATERIAL LIFE WITHOUT THE BASIC GUARANTEES OF HUMAN RIGHTS CANNOT BE CALLED TRUE PROGRESS. WE APPLAUD VENEZUELA'S DETERMINATION TO GUARD ITS DEMOCRACY AND TO SPEAK OUT IN THE NAME OF HUMAN RIGHTS WHILE AT THE SAME TIME LAUNCHING A BOLD PROGRAM FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INDEPENDENCE.

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AS MY HUSBAND SAID IN HIS INAUGURAL ADDRESS THIS JANUARY, "BECAUSE WE (IN THE UNITED STATES) ARE FREE, WE CAN NEVER BE INDIFFERENT TO THE FATE OF FREEDOM ELSEWHERE. OUR MORAL SENSE DICTATES A CLEARCUT PREFERENCE FOR THOSE SOCIETIES WHICH SHARE WITH US AN ABIDING RESPECT FOR INDIVIDUAL HUMAN RIGHTS. WE DO NOT SEEK TO INTIMIDATE, BUT IT IS CLEAR THAT A WORLD WHICH OTHERS CAN DOMINATE WITH IMPUNITY WOULD

BE INHOSPITABLE TO DECENCY AND A THREAT TO THE WELL-BEING OF ALL PEOPLE."

THUS IT IS THAT WE COUNT VENEZUELA AS ONE OF OUR SPECIAL ALLIES IN THE STRUGGLE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. VENEZUELA SERVES AS A FLOWING EXAMPLE TO ALL DEVELOPING NATIONS THAT DEMOCRACY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GO HAND-IN-HAND.

YOUR OWN STATEMENTS, MR. PRESIDENT, ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE ECONOMIC RIGHTS OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES HAVE WON YOU RESPECT THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AS A STATESMAN AND LEADER. WHILE NO TWO SOVEREIGN NATIONS' ECONOMIC INTERESTS AND OBJECTIVES ARE EVER IDENTICAL, OUR COUNTRIES ARE WORKING IN THE SAME SPIRIT OF JUSTICE IN TRYING TO REACH NEW FORMS OF COOPERATION AT THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE, AT WHICH VENEZUELA IS SERVING AS CO-CHAIRMAN. WE BELIEVE THAT THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES MUST ACQUIRE FULLER PARTICIPATION IN THE GLOBAL DECISION-MAKING PROCESS.

IN JUST A FEW SHORT WEEKS, MR. PRESIDENT, WE IN THE UNITED STATES WILL HAVE THE HONOR OF RECEIVING YOU AS OUR GUEST. I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT PRESIDENT CARTER LOOKS FORWARD TO THIS OPPORTUNITY TO MEET YOU AND TO CONTINUE THE DIALOGUE INITIATED HERE WITH MY VISIT.

DURING THIS TRIP TO LATIN AMERICA, I HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED WITH THE INTEREST THAT LATIN AMERICANS HAVE IN THE UNITED STATES--NOT ONLY IN OUR POLICIES BUT IN OUR HISTORY AND CULTURE. I HOPE THAT WHILE IN THE UNITED STATES YOU MAY SENSE THE DEEP INTEREST THAT AMERICANS HAVE TODAY

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IN THE CULTURE OF LATIN AMERICA. IN OUR AGE OF INSTANT COMMUNICATION, AN UNDERSTANDING OF DIFFERENT CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES AND ASSUMPTIONS IS A NECESSARY FOUNDATION FOR THE DISCUSSION OF SPECIFIC PROBLEMS BETWEEN NATIONS.

IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT OF MUTUAL INTEREST IN EACH OTHER'S CULTURE AND COMMON DEDICATION TO THE IDEALS OF FREEDOM AND EQUALITY THAT I TOAST THE BRIGHT FUTURE OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. UNQUOTE

2. TOAST FOR DINNER HOSTED BY MRS. CARTER: QUOTE MR. PRESIDENT, MRS. PEREZ AND DISTINGUISHED GUESTS. AS YOU KNOW, CARACAS IS THE FINAL STOP ON THIS, MY FIRST TRIP TO LATIN AMERICA SINCE MOVING INTO THE WHITE HOUSE. I HAVE BEEN GREATLY IMPRESSED IN EACH COUNTRY THAT I HAVE VISITED NOT ONLY BY THE WARM AND ENTHUSIASTIC WELCOME ACCORDED ME, BUT ALSO BY THE DEEP INTEREST LATIN AMERICANS HAVE IN THE UNITED STATES.

AS OUR COUNTRIES MOVE TOGETHER TOWARD THE TWENTY-FIRST

CENTURY, WE IN THE UNITED STATES ENVISION A HOPEFUL WORLD, A WORLD DOMINATED BY INCREASING DEMANDS FOR BASIC FREEDOMS, FOR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS, FOR HIGHER STANDARDS OF HUMAN EXISTENCE. THE UNITED STATES AND VENEZUELA STAND SIDE BY SIDE IN EAGERNESS TO TAKE PART IN THE SHAPING OF THIS WORLD.

CARACAS IS ONLY THREE HOURS FROM THE UNITED STATES BY AIRPLANE, BUT THE TIES BETWEEN OUR TWO PEOPLES ARE TOO CLOSE TO BE MEASURED IN PHYSICAL TERMS. IN 1822, THE UNITED STATES WAS THE FIRST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD TO RECOGNIZE VENEZUELA'S INDEPENDENCE. IT IS A FITTING COINCIDENCE THAT THE DATES OF OUR COUNTRIES' INDEPENDENCE, JULY 4 AND JULY 5, ARE BACK-TO-BACK. THE BONDS BETWEEN US WERE RECONFIRMED LAST YEAR DURING THE CELEBRATION OF THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES, MR. PRESIDENT, WITH YOUR ELOQUENT PROCLAMATION. THANKS TO THE FRIENDSHIP AND GENEROSITY OF THE PEOPLE OF VENEZUELA, A SPECTACULAR SCULPTURE BY THE BRILLIANT ARTIST ALEJANDRO OTERO

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NOW GRACES THE BEAUTIFUL MALL OF OUR CAPITAL CITY.

THROUGHOUT THE LONG HISTORY OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES, WE HAVE MUTUALLY CHERISHED THE IDEALS OF DEMOCRACY, FREEDOM AND HUMAN RIGHTS. TODAY, THESE IDEALS ARE SADLY ENDANGERED IN MUCH OF THE WORLD. AS MY HUSBAND SAID IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES THIS APRIL, "THE CHALLENGE BEFORE US TODAY IS NOT JUST TO REAFFIRM THOSE PRINCIPLES, BUT TO FIND WAYS TO MAKE THEM A REALITY."

VENEZUELA AND THE UNITED STATES STAND TOGETHER IN THE HARD STRUGGLE TO CREATE THIS REALITY. YOUR DETERMINATION TO PROTECT YOUR SYSTEM OF DEMOCRACY WHILE SPEAKING OUT BOLDLY IN THE NAME OF FREEDOM SERVES AS A BEACON FOR OTHERS IN THIS HEMISPHERE.

IN THE SPIRIT OF OUR MUTUAL DETERMINATION TO DEFEND DEMOCRACY, FREEDOM AND HUMAN RIGHTS, MR. PRESIDENT, I OFFER A TOAST TO THE CONTINUED FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO GREAT REPUBLICS. UNQUOTE

VAKY

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